

Guy Debord and Ideology Materialized: Reconsidering Situationist Praxis

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The enduring value of Guy Debord's critique of capitalism is twofold: First, Debord's work offers a critical reformulation of Marxist theory that can be found nowhere else, yet is typically unaccounted for by students of social and political theory. Second, Debord's consideration of why socialist aspirations in advanced capitalist societies dwindled after World War II, and what can be done to reinvigorate revolutionary criticism, are both novel and useful. I argue that a man who has garnered the attention of myriad biographers, artists, and historians must be recovered by theorists and activists. Debord proposes revolutionary alternatives to revolution viable for an era generally uninterested in revolutionary schemes. *[Article copies available for a fee from The Transformative Studies Institute. E-mail address: journal@transformativestudies.org Website: <http://www.transformativestudies.org> ©2008 by The Transformative Studies Institute. All rights reserved.]*

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In this article, I argue that Guy Debord's critical analysis of capitalism, elaborated in his work from the 1950s and 60s, remains of special importance today. The value of Debord's work, at the very least, is twofold: First, Debord's work offers a major reformulation of Marxist theory that can be found nowhere else, and is yet typically unaccounted for by students of social and political philosophy. But the work is

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